

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

To provide an information processing apparatus for efficiently managing documents and various procedures related to a patent application. Information related
5 to a patent application is accumulated in a database for each case, and managed for due date. When an inventor has to study a case, a request to study the case is issued to the inventor through a network, and the state of the study by the inventor is checked
10 through the network. Furthermore, related prior art is managed in a database, thereby efficiently filing an application with Patent Office.